Tax relief for disabled sector

657. SHRIMATI BIMBA RAIKAR: Will the Minister of FINANCE AND COMPANY AFFAIRS be pleased to state:

(a) whether the disabled sector has sought tax relief and concessional import duty on aids/appliances meant for rehabilitation of the handicapped;

(b) if so, whether any memorandum has been submitted to Government by Disabled Rights Group on their behalf; and

(c) if so, Government's reaction thereto?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF FINANCE AND COMPANY AFFAIRS (SHRI GINGEE N. RAMACHANDRAN): (a) and (b) The Government have received a memorandum from the Disabled Rights Groups seeking customs and excise duty concessions on various aids/appliances for handicapped.

(c) No comments can be furnished in view of the ensuing budget.

Debarring of NBFCs from doing business

658. SHRIMATI BIMBA RAIKAR: Will the Minister of FINANCE AND COMPANY AFFAIRS be pleased to state:

(a) whether the Reserve Bank of India has debarred certain Non-Banking Finance Companies from doing business beyond 9th January, 2003 for not meeting the 'Net owned fund' criterion;

(b) if so, whether this action is pursuant to RBI receiving complaints from several depositors on the failure of NBFCs to honour commitments to deposit holders; and

(c) the list of such NBFCs debarred from operating from 9th January, 2003?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF FINANCE AND COMPANY AFFAIRS (SHRI ANANDRAO VITHOBA ADSUL): (a) Yes, Sir.

(b) No, Sir. It has been done to meet the statutory obligations caste upon the Reserve Bank of India (RBI).